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Brazil

Citrus

Citrus Update - Local Industry Impression on Current Citrus Situation 2001

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Report Highlights:

According to IEA, the final estimate for the MY 2000/01 orange crop in Sao Paulo is 355.3 MBoxes. The first forecast for the MY 2001/02 crop is placed at 347.7 MBoxes (IEA, Feb./2001). Total exports for MY 2000/01 could vary between 1.1 and 1.2 million metric tons, according to ABECITRUS.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Sao Paulo [BR3], BR

MY 2000/01

As reported by the Sao Paulo State Secretariat of Agriculture, Institute of Agricultural Economics (IEA) , the final estimate for the MY 2000/01 orange crop in the State of Sao Paulo is 355.93 Million Boxes (MBOXES). Post contacts report that production could be as low as 320-330 MBOXES.

Processing plants are still crushing oranges from the MY 2000/01 citrus crop. According to some contacts, the citrus season should extend at a slow pace to the end of March, although some companies could keep crushing in to April-May (low volumes). ATO/Sao Paulo estimate of oranges for processing in the Sao Paulo commercial area is unchanged at 260 MBOXES (see BR0025). Some contacts report that this figure could range between 250-260 MBOXES. Frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) production estimate for the Sao Paulo commercial area remains unchanged at 1.07 million metric tons, 65 Brix.

According to market sources, orange prices for processing and retail increased during the last quarter of 2000. Oranges for processing increased from R\$ 1.66 per box in September to R\$ 2.82 per box in December (source: ESALQ/CEPEA). January prices reached R\$ 3.50 per box and Feb prices reached R\$ 5.50 per box (rate of exchange. US\$ 1 = R\$ 1.95).

As reported by the Brazilian Association of Citrus Exporters (ABECITRUS), using figures from the Brazilian Department of Foreign Trade (SECEX), FCOJ exports for the July 2000 to January 2001 period are 778,843 mt (523.903 mt to Europe). Total Brazilian exports for MY 2000/01 could vary between 1.1 and 1.2 million metric tons.

MY 2001/02

IEA has released in February 2001, the first forecast for the MY 2001/02 crop at 347.7 MBOXES, although the institution also reports that the next forecast could drop to 330 MBOXES. Market sources report that the upcoming crop would yield about 300 MBOXES, but its still too early to have a solid figure. The Pera variety blossoming was somewhat affected by dry weather. Trade sources report that some orange contracts have been set at US 2.00 - 2.20 per box for the next 2 years.